

North of Scotland KTP Centre

Case Study

www.ktp-link.co.uk

Nautronix

The project was initiated to deliver a robust underwater acoustic network based on the established NASNet® acoustic positioning and communications system. The aim was to increase the distance at which data can be acoustically transmitted through water, in a highly energy efficient manner.



Challenge

Current oil field applications are designed around physical limitations which make long range data communications difficult, requiring surface buoys or vessels where links of more than a few kilometres are required. This is an expensive and difficult.

Subsea systems are powered using electrochemical batteries, with the battery power being the limiting factor for long term deployments due to practical size and weight constraints.

Results

The Partnership extended the capabilities of the data communications products, increasing the potential market for Nautronix products. Strategically, this offered the opportunity of a competitive solution to customers with long range communications requirements. The concept of the KTP aims allowed Nautronix to market more aggressively the combined acoustic positioning and communications idea. As the Industry moves forward in deeper water the capability to provide a more wireless solution is gaining traction.

Benefits

The Partnership provided the techniques required to reliably use multiple 'hops' to extend communications over any range which would be required by customer applications. There are two specific opportunities for the KTP output, these being a single hop for Blowout Preventer controls and the field wide intelligent requirements for the NASNet system. Both these requirements were identified as strategic opportunities through the product review process in association with the relevant Product Line Managers. .

Knowledge
Transfer
Partnerships



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Nautronix are global leaders in through water communications, with a portfolio of products including underwater voice and data communications, and positioning systems.

"We found the KTP process very beneficial to assisting the Company to develop functionality for our product ranges earlier in the development process. The specific capability was 4 years on our product roadmap and the KTP allowed this to be developed 2 years earlier."

Lindsay MacDonald, Senior Manager

Innovate UK